

ABSTRACT

In an image distribution system comprising a camera
controllable by an external device, a camera server
5 having a function of digitizing and transmitting an
image signal acquired by the camera via a network and a
function of issuing authorization to control the camera,
a viewer which receives and displays the transmitted
digitized image signal, further requests to control the
10 camera, and a network connecting the camera server and
the viewer, in a case where the camera server issues the
authorization to control the camera to the viewer and
communication between the viewer and the camera server
is undesirably terminated while the viewer holds the
15 authorization, when the viewer restores the
communication within a predetermined period, it is
allowed to continuously control the camera under the
same conditions as at the time of the undesired
termination.

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